

Meeting Record

**MPO Officials Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 2003
Mayor's Conference Room
City County Building, 555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska**

MEMBERS AND OTHERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members: Mayor Seng, Bernie Heier, Jon Camp, Ray Stevens

Others: Richard Schmeling, Phyllis Hergenrader, Joe Hampton, Darrell Podany, Alvin Lrign, Dan Lutz, Marvin Krout, Kent Morgan, Steve Henrichsen, Mike Brienzo, Karen Sieckmeyer

Item No. 1 - Review and action on the draft minutes of the June 13, 2003 Officials Committee Meeting.

Mayor Seng called the meeting to order and requested a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2002 meeting.

Jon Camp made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mayor Seng. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Stevens abstaining.

Item No. 2 - Election of committee officers. According to the Bylaws, Committee officers consisting of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

A nomination was made by Ray Stevens to elect Bernie Heier as Chair, seconded by Mayor Seng. Nomination carried unanimously.

A nomination was made by Ray Stevens to elect Jon Camp as Vice-Chair, seconded by Heier. Nomination carried unanimously.

Item No. 3 - Review and action on a proposed amendments to the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan.

Mike Brienzo explained Comprehensive Plan Amendment #03001, Trails Plan Update. There being no discussion, a motion was made to approve this amendment by Mayor Seng and seconded by Ray Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike continued on with Comprehensive Plan Amendment #03006, Street Functional Classification. There being no discussion, a motion was made to approve this amendment by Mayor Seng and seconded by Jon Camp. Motion carried unanimously.

The third amendment is #03017, Personal Rapid Transit (PRT). Mike explained how the Planning Commission had elected not to include a discussion of PRT as a mobility option to be considered for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan. As the amendments came forward, the County Board agreed with the Planning Commission not to include Personal Rapid Transit in the Plan but the City Council disagreed with the Planning Commission and did in fact make an amendment that would allow the study of a Personal Rapid Transit System as part of this Mobility Study. Ray Stevens asked what would happen if this amendment is approved? Mike explained that this action is to allow the study of a Personnel Rapid Transit System and

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include the note in the plan stating the “PRT amendment was adopted by City Council and denied by the County Board.”

A motion was made to approve this amendment by Mayor Seng and seconded by Camp. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and action on a recommendation regarding 2003 Certification that the Transportation Planning Process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Area complies with applicable federal laws and regulations. Recommendation is on the last page of the 2003 Certification Report.

Mike Brienzo gave an overview of the 2003 Certification Report. This is a transportation planning process to report that the Metropolitan Planning Organization complies with all of the applicable Federal laws and regulations. This report is organized according to deregulations that we are held accountable for and how we addressed them over the past year. Mike gave a brief summary on the key issues of this report.

Over the past year, the Lincoln MPO was identified as a Transportation Management Areas (TMA) based on the results of the 2000 census which was published on July 8, 2002. The designation as a TMA brings with it new responsibilities that includes the requirement for a “Federal Planning Certification Review” instead of the “Planning Management Review” as conducted in the past. This will take place every three years and is more involved and usually takes two to three days rather than a single day. In addition, the MPO will be required to have a public hearing to solicit feedback on the transportation planning process during the review. Along with this, the MPO gets additional authority, in cooperation with the state, to identify major transportation projects within the Lincoln planning area.

He also identified the areas of recommended improvement which were identified in the January report from FHWA/FTA. The recommendations of these report are that the transportation process is current and it is doing the job that the Federal regulations intended and recommended that the process be self certified.

Mayor Seng asked if the reason we go through this process is to get federal dollars? Mike responded that the maintenance of an viable transportation planning process is a basis for receiving federal transportation funds.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Jon Camp to approve the 2003 Certification, seconded by Ray Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 5 - Review and action on the FY 2004-2006 and 2007-2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

All of the Transportation Projects that receive federal funds are put into this document. It includes State, County and City projects along with Airport Authority, Lower Platte South NRD, and Railroad Transportation Safety District. This is an annual report that includes projects to be implemented by transportation agencies within the funding area. The objective of the program is to include both Federal and locally funded projects in order to provide better coordination and to receive funding from the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and other transportation agencies. All federally funded projects are required to be placed in the TIP.

The TIP has a listing of the priority projects which cover the first three years of the program and the listing of out year projects which cover the second three years of projects. The Officials will be acting on the priority years which are from 2004, 2005, and 2006. We are using the out years for informational purposes only. It is important to note that the City’s Capital Improvement Program is moving forward and we dovetail

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with this report at the time and public hearing takes place, which was May 21, 2003. Ray Stevens asked if the beltways were included since that was for federal funding. Mike replied that the South Beltway is identified for design and construction.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Seng to approve the FY 2004-2006 and 2007-2009 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Ray Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 6 - Review and action on the Lincoln-Lancaster FY 2003-2004 Unified Planning Work Program for Transportation Planning .

Mike Brienzo explained the Unified Planning Work Program which identifies the transportation planning activities for the next fiscal year. This listing is not restricted just to transportation projects but anything that relates to transportation, such as land use, subarea planning, air quality analysis, flood plain programs, and the Airport Noise Study for the Airport. The Unified Planning Work Program is organized for the purpose of getting Federal funding and to coordinate information on major projects in the planning area.

A motion was made by Mayor Seng to approve the Unified Planning Work Program, seconded by Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no other business, Stevens made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Seng. Motion carried unanimously.